

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493

Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.

Response Filed: September 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Date: May 19, 2005

## **II. AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS/CLAIMS LISTING**

The below listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Presently Amended) An exterior finishing system for horizontal walls comprising:
  - a substrate;
  - a bond-compatible composite membrane adhered to an exteriorly facing surface of said substrate, said membrane comprising a first self-adhesive material layer and a second rough fabric layer adjacent said first self-adhesive material layer, wherein said first self-adhesive material layer is adhered to said substrate, and wherein said second rough fabric layer provides a bonding surface for forming a bond with a bonding material;
  - an exterior finishing material; and
  - a bond formed with a bonding material, said bonding material disposed between said second rough fabric layer of said bond-compatible composite membrane and said exterior finishing material.
2. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 1, wherein said first self-adhesive material layer is a self-adhesive bituminous material layer.
3. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 2, wherein said first self-adhesive bituminous material layer is a rubberized, self-adhesive bituminous material layer.
4. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 1, wherein said second rough fabric layer is a polyester fabric layer.
5. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 4, wherein said polyester fabric layer is a non-woven layer.

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493

Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.

Response Filed: September 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Date: May 19, 2005

6. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 1, wherein said first self-adhesive material layer is a self-adhesive bituminous material layer and wherein said second rough fabric layer is a polyester fabric layer.

7. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 6, wherein said first self-adhesive bituminous material layer comprises from about 90 to about 99 weight percent, by total weight of the composite membrane, and wherein said second polyester fabric layer comprises from about 1 to about 10 weight percent, by total weight of the composite membrane.

8. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 6, wherein said first self-adhesive bituminous material layer comprises bitumen, styrene-butadiene copolymer and calcium carbonate.

9. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 6, wherein said composite membrane is from about 35 to about 45 mils thick.

10. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 6, wherein said composite membrane is about 40 mils thick.

11. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 6, further comprising a bonding material disposed on said polyester fabric layer.

12. (Presently Amended) The exterior finishing system of claim 11, wherein said bonding material is selected from the group consisting of adhesives, base coats, cementitious materials and acrylic compositions.

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493

Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.

Response Filed: September 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Date: May 19, 2005

13. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 12, wherein said bond between said composite membrane and said exterior finishing material has a tensile strength of at least about 7.5 psi at room temperature, at least about 7 at 120°F, and at least about 3.7 psi at 0°F.

14. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 13, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 18 to about 22 psi at room temperature, about 18 to about 22 at 120°F, and about 17 to about 19 psi at 0°F.

15. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 13, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 19 to about 25 psi at room temperature, about 17 to about 23 at 120°F, and about 17 to about 23 psi at 0°F.

16. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 13, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 7.5 to about 9.1 psi at room temperature, about 7 to about 11 at 120°F, and about 3.7 to about 4.9 psi at 0°F.

17. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 13, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 19.3 to about 20.9 psi at room temperature, about 15 to about 21 at 120°F, and about 18 to about 22 psi at 0°F.

18. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 11, wherein said exterior finishing material is selected from the group consisting of weather barriers, insulation, exterior cladding and exterior insulation and finish systems.

19. (Original) The exterior finishing system of claim 18, wherein said exterior finishing material is an exterior insulation and finish system.

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493

Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.

Response Filed: September 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Date: May 19, 2005

20. (Withdrawn) A method for adhering exterior finishing materials to the exterior of a building substrate comprising:

providing a bond-compatible composite membrane comprising a first self-adhesive material layer and a second rough fabric layer adjacent said first self-adhesive material layer, wherein said second rough fabric layer provides a bonding surface for forming a bond with a bonding material;

adhering said first self-adhesive material layer of said composite membrane to said substrate;

applying a bonding material to said second rough fabric layer of said composite membrane; and

bonding an exterior finishing materials to said composite membrane with said bonding material disposed therebetween.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said first self-adhesive material layer is a self-adhesive bituminous material layer.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein said first self-adhesive bituminous material layer is a rubberized, self-adhesive bituminous material layer.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said second rough fabric layer is a polyester fabric layer.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said polyester fabric layer is a non-woven layer.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said first self-adhesive material layer is a self-adhesive bituminous material layer and wherein said second rough fabric layer is a polyester fabric layer.

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493

Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.

Response Filed: September 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Date: May 19, 2005

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, wherein said first self-adhesive bituminous material layer comprises from about 90 to about 99 weight percent, by total weight of the composite membrane, and wherein said second polyester fabric layer comprises from about 1 to about 10 weight percent, by total weight of the composite membrane.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein said first self-adhesive bituminous material layer comprises bitumen, styrene-butadiene copolymer and calcium carbonate.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, wherein said composite membrane is from about 35 to about 45 mils thick.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein said composite membrane is about 40 mils thick.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said bonding material is selected from the group consisting of adhesives, base coats, cementitious materials and acrylic compositions.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein said bond between said composite membrane and said exterior finishing material has a tensile strength of at least about 7.5 psi at room temperature, at least about 7 at 120°F, and at least about 3.7 psi at 0°F.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 18 to about 22 psi at room temperature, about 18 to about 22 at 120°F, and about 17 to about 19 psi at 0°F.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 19 to about 25 psi at room temperature, about 17 to about 23 at 120°F, and about 17 to about 23 psi at 0°F.

Application Serial No.: 10/772,493

Applicants: Tina L. Bramlett et al.

Response Filed: September 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Date: May 19, 2005

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 7.5 to about 9.1 psi at room temperature, about 7 to about 11 at 120°F, and about 3.7 to about 4.9 psi at 0°F.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the tensile strength of said bond is between about 19.3 to about 20.9 psi at room temperature, about 15 to about 21 at 120°F, and about 18 to about 22 psi at 0°F.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein said exterior finishing material is selected from the group consisting of weather barriers, insulation, exterior cladding and exterior insulation and finish systems.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein said exterior finishing material is an exterior insulation and finish system.